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E.O. 12065: GDS 5-20-86 (CHRISTOPHER, W.)

TAGS: OGEN, PGOV, MPOL, AR

SUBJECT: POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING ON ARGENTINA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4057

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT

2. AT THE MAY 14 PRC MEETING ON ARGENTINA IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA, RECOGNIZING THAT DRAMATIC PROGRESS IS UNLIKELY BEFORE THE INAUGURATION OF ARGENTINA'S NEW PRESIDENT. WE WILL MOVE PROMPTLY, HOWEVER, TO CONSIDER HOW TO SEEK A MORE FUNDAMENTAL IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-ARGENTINA RELATIONS AFTER THE NEW ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS ASSUMED OFFICE, ASSUMING CONTINUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENT.

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3. THE PRC DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO CONSIDER RESCISSION OR MODIFICATION OF LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON MILITARY SUPPLY TO ARGENTINA THIS YEAR. IN 1981, LEGISLATIVE MODIFICATIONS TO PERMIT TRAINING AND PERHAPS OTHER ACTIONS CONCERNING MILITARY SUPPLY MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION CONTINUED FAVORABLE.

4. BECAUSE OF THE CONCERNS RAISED REPTFL, WE HAVE DECIDED

TO HOLD OFF EXTENDING AN INVITATION TO A HIGH-RANKING ARGENTINE MILITARY OFFICER DISCUSSED DURING AMBASSADOR SMITH'S VISIT. A FINAL DECISION ON THE INVITATION WILL BE MADE AFTER JULY 1.

5. PURSUANT TO THE DECISION OF THE PRC, A MEETING OF THE INTERAGENCY GROUP HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR MAY 29 TO DISCUSS A PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRC'S APPROACH. THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF A DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION FOR 1980 AND A PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES FOR 1981.

6. REQUEST EMBASSY PROVIDE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON IMPLEMENTING THE PRC'S DECISION TO ARA/SC NLT MAY 24.

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

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